





**SURPRISING TH**

(From Mr. Edmund Candler's  
diary of the British  
expeditionary Force in M  
In a long lull between  
most of my days out.

cavity of sappers. Often this Bedouin-infested country may have to take the part of a brigade for a squadron or two of horse. Some lack without much. Surviving would be a dull not for the Bedouin, for the void of any feature. The camped here shared not wriggle line from the south west with the names of Bawilan on the side and other side of the river. A land of flat sand is difficult. There is nothing salient in name to—no trees or hills save the ruins of mud mounds—the even-like which the Arab stores his sketch maps become dot hats. "Arab Village," "Mud Walls," until

The mother of invention, the mint, more especially the one was called in, with its no associations. Now we have Jerusalem. "Evil Crowding, now," "Sodom and Gomorrah" in our camp are towers and the Tower of Babel. The mud has become a single one "Lot's Wife" are landmarks for mirrors sometimes loom as Cathedral.

### TRICKS OF THE

This dancing mirage pl tricks. The other day my up a direction post for survey—a little mound. When he started back to the flag. He had left the hind when, looking back, an Arab put

down and covered the fire and called to his orderly to lay in wait while, the Arab came rapid stride, his c wind. Whole minutes passed never ceased to move. They approached, and found mound no more than a few feet. One meets with odd articles the desert by night as well with the cavalry on a rare

It was pitch dark and the One could hardly see a visionary horizon, or colour of the ground or of everything. One was on a mountain of brown, to rise out of grey; the ground was rising, while which I could see the skywards it to avoid what I found that what I felt foot bank was the contrary of a horizon. To the of the rain, and our a little noise that they hundred yards; they twenty. Before dawn we came very slowly, and the of the place as an object of encampment, was had no quarrel with it, suspect that hostile tribe the hospitality of the she have come out of camp at 4.15, and they were singing, then in with our elated.

When the encampment we found the infantry

it. The cavalry then charged out of mud and brushwood in a ring of Arabs. They stared, wondering what was admitted, and what could be about. Clearly that was no punitive, thought that this large on them at night to do in the morning—may be, and inwardly and were broken faith. But they apprehension—none even stared fixedly at the bobbing heads of our from cover, had drawn dained noose round the laughing at us quietly have never discovered. may be, and fallen away of the Bedouin, cowardly

meatly predatory, those inherited at least one arising from the East. They were their emotions. The moment; the hostile incident.

**A SURPRISE FOR**

But the next night made beginning of a more acute time it was moonlight. 50 or 60 yards ahead; merged in the haze. On tongue of land lying in which held a hostile Arab had to close this in with

and round up any of the  
side. At the end of the  
back, the second column  
100, commanding the  
land—above the surround  
this point of vantage we  
the Turkish camp on the  
river as soon as it was  
the Turkish camp, the  
the Arab encampment,  
the place gave tongue  
100 yards, there broke  
military that I thought  
the strong guard of  
three ourselves flat, the  
waited events. The fusi  
and then veered off to  
the direction from which  
the strong guard had  
Turkish cavalry patrol  
treat was cut off by the  
the Turks had mounted  
at our line, firing as the  
the Turkish camp, the  
they answered like a  
through our column on  
half their numbers

They were brought down  
volved as they jumped  
he had taken cover.  
down birds," he said.  
All this happened in  
the mounds in the bend  
a definite outline. "Our  
point of coming into ad-  
there to see the next  
Turks were lying among  
other side of the Tigris  
no suspicion that we were  
guns to take them in  
naturally have taken the  
had heard on our side a  
posts. Their awakening  
dramatic. As the first  
among their tents there  
saw

port animals. Hog  
donkeys, many of them  
on no saddles, and  
riders, began to stru-  
dle. From our mounds, we  
whole desert like the  
amphitheatre, we could  
spread out in black lin-  
the marsh to the north  
of retreat so that the  
pains within 2,500 - we  
guns played on the  
was a very episodic  
the whole like the panty  
entertainment the arena  
blood of man and bea-  
fully little Gorkhas di-  
they did not share the  
hugs, amused at the  
three, guns leaving the  
mules, and the expec-  
on our mounds. I  
straight, but we had  
in, and I doubt if our  
they were more than 2

A Melbourne telegram to the Australian Railways Union, Melbourne, resolved absolutely against Mr. Pearce, Minister of Railways, and appealed to Australian business men that there is a duty to use it as a duty to their services.

1990















